

## **Self-Directed Attendant Care Program: Other Interested parties**

### **Taking Charge**

Beginning more than 30 years ago, many states began experimenting with a new form of home and community-based care for individuals who were receiving in-home health services. The new form of service delivery empowered individuals receiving care to direct their own care with the option of choosing some or all of their own health care attendants and essentially serving as the direct employers of their personal attendants. Sometimes the individual's plan of care included both agency-based and self-directed personal attendants. The movement gradually gained in popularity because many individuals receiving care were ready and willing to take charge of their own care and experienced greater satisfaction with their lives once they had done so. In other states where the program has already been implemented satisfaction is reportedly very high.

### **Advantages of Self-Directed Attendant Care**

Self-direction may:

- Provide an opportunity to exercise more self-control, to arrange care more conveniently, and to work with personal attendants who are familiar to the eligible individual.
- Give an opportunity to arrange for services from more than one personal attendant or from a combination of agency-based care and Self-Directed Attendant Care, depending on the individual's plan of care.
- Give a better understanding of the process of receiving services and making changes as conditions change.
- Involve the individual in the process ensuring that personal attendants are giving the best service available.

This section is designed for anyone who is an advocate, who works in a social worker position with individuals who may be eligible for these services, or who is providing any kind of support for a consumer who may be eligible for this program.

### **How can you help?**

Depending on relationship with the eligible consumer, any of the following may be helpful when assisting someone:

- Learn about the program.
- Listen to the eligible individual's ideas and concerns. And, discuss how the program could work for them.
- Contact the local [Area Agency on Aging office](#) or their case manager to begin the enrollment process.
- Help complete the enrollment packet.

- Offer to be a Representative or help them find one, if they would like to have a Representative.
- Direct anyone who is interested to our website or to our toll free number [for more information](#).
- Help find employees and identify what tasks will be covered (the case manager will also help determine what tasks are covered)
- Help develop a back up plan.
- Be proactive in identifying possible sticky situations and develop solutions with the individual.
- Offer your support.

Additional links that may be helpful:

- There are 16 [Area Agencies on Aging](#) offices statewide.
- There are six [Indiana Centers for Independent Living](#) throughout the state.

The bulk of the paperwork is in the enrollment process, up front. Once an individual is enrolled in the program, there is very little ongoing paperwork involved. If someone would need assistance, they may need help completing their enrollment packet and hiring their employees.

Many eligible individuals will be able to complete the necessary enrollment and hiring process on their own. However, your support, in whatever form, is greatly appreciated.

The following links maybe helpful to you. They are geared for the consumer who is eligible for services through the Medicaid Aged and Disabled Waiver.

- [Brochure](#) (pdf download, 2 pages, 4.25 Mb)
- Consumer [Online Training](#)
- [The Role of the Fiscal Intermediary](#)
- [Procedure Outline](#) (pdf download, 2 pages, 116 K)
- Consumer [Frequently Asked Questions](#) (FAQs)
- [Consumer Manual](#) (pdf download, 168 pages, 10.5 Mb)
- [Employee Manual](#) (pdf download, 90 pages, 7.07 Mb)

As an information broker, you are crucial to the success of this program. Please contact us if you have any questions, Public Partnerships, LLC (866) 264-2296.

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[Consumer](#) \* [Case Manager](#) \* [Provider](#) \* [Other Interested Parties](#) \* [Fiscal Intermediary](#) \* [Forms](#)